

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice and add claims 31-67 as follows:

Claims 1-30 (canceled)

31. (new) A position measuring system for determining the position of a first structural component and a second structural component, said position measuring system comprising:

a first support for receiving a first position measuring device, which is set up and provided for being fastened to said first structural component;

a second support for receiving a second position measuring device, which is set up and provided for being fastened to said second structural component;

a first connector that fastens said first support to said first structural component;

a second connector that fastens said second support to said second structural component, wherein said second connector comprises:

a nut, with which a screw can be brought into engagement, wherein said nut is inserted into a recess of said second support;

a blocking element which, in an inserted state, works together with said nut in order to prevent a movement of said nut out of said recess in an axial direction, which is a direction of insertion of said screw into said nut, sufficiently far so that insertion of said screw into said nut is made possible.

32. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said first position measuring device comprises a scale graduation and said second

position measuring device comprises a scanning unit.

33. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said first position measuring device comprises a scanning unit and said second position measuring device comprises a scale graduation.

34. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said blocking element comprises a clip by which said recess is covered, and said nut is arranged in said recess between a bottom of said recess and a contact face of said clip.

35. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 34, wherein a distance (a) between said bottom of said recess and said contact face of said clip in said axial direction is greater than a thickness (d) of said nut.

36. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 34, wherein said clip is arranged in said recess and is fixed in place.

37. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 36, wherein said clip is fixed in place against a wall of said recess.

38. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 37, wherein said wall is a partially encircling interior wall of said recess.

39. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 38, wherein said clip presses with at least one edge against said interior wall of said recess in such a way, that it is fixed in place in said recess.

40. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 39, wherein said clip can be deformed in at least one partial area in such a way, that it presses with prestress against one of said at least one edge against said interior wall of said recess.

41. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 39, wherein said clip comprises:

an angled-off section extending along said interior wall of said recess; and

a tongue provided on said angled-off section, which acts by an edge on said interior wall of said recess.

42. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 39, wherein said clip comprises a substantially flat base body, which can be elastically deformed in such a way that it rests under prestress with at least one outer edge against said interior wall of said recess.

43. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 36, wherein said clip can be fixed in place with positive contact in said recess.

44. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 43, wherein said clip can be fixed in place in said recess by a connector selected from the group consisting of a snap-in connector and a plug connection.

45. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 44, wherein said connector is a snap-in connector that comprises a snap-in hook, which engages an undercut with a snap-in section, wherein said snap-in hook is provided on said clip, and said snap-in opening is provided at an interior wall of said recess.

46. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 43, further comprising a pin that engages a hole formed in said second support, wherein said pin is provided on said clip and said hole is located in a vicinity of said recess.

47. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 34, wherein said clip defines an elongated hole in a base body, into which said screw can protrude.

48. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 34, wherein said clip is embodied in such a way that it acts as a safeguard against twisting, which counteracts twisting of said nut in said recess.

49. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 48,

wherein said clip encloses said nut in a positively-connected manner.

50. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said nut can be clamped in said recess by said blocking element.

51. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said blocking element is designed and arranged in such a way that it is already effective when inserting said nut in said recess, in that said blocking element is already applied to said recess or said nut when inserting said nut in said recess.

52. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 50, wherein said blocking element comprises an elastically yielding element that is arranged between an interior wall of said recess and an outer circumference of said nut so that said nut can be clamped in said recess.

53. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 52, wherein said elastically yielding element comprises an O-ring.

54. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 53, wherein said O-ring is maintained in a groove of said recess.

55. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 53, wherein said O-ring is maintained in a groove of said nut.

56. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 52, wherein said elastically yielding element comprises an elastic coating formed on said nut.

57. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 52, wherein said elastically yielding element comprises an elastic coating formed on a wall of said recess.

58. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said blocking element comprises an elastically yielding element which delimits an access opening of said recess for inserting said nut over a circumference of said nut and, in the course of inserting said nut, exerts a resistance on said nut, which can be overcome, but releases said circumference of said nut once said nut has been inserted into said recess.

59. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 58, wherein said elastically yielding element comprises an O-ring.

60. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 59, wherein said O-ring is maintained in a groove of said recess.

61. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 58, wherein a distance (a) in said axial direction between a bottom of said recess and said blocking element is greater than or equal to a thickness (d) of said nut.

62. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein a geometric design of said recess defines a safeguard against twisting which counteracts twisting of said nut in said recess.

63. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 32, wherein said scale graduation is a linear scale graduation.

64. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 33, wherein said scale graduation is a linear scale graduation.

65. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 63, wherein said first support comprises a housing for said linear scale graduation, and said second support comprises a mounting base, with which said scanning unit scanning said scale graduation is connected.

66. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 64, wherein said second support comprises a housing for said linear scale graduation, and said first support comprises a mounting base, with which said scanning unit scanning said scale graduation is connected.

67. (new) The position measuring system in accordance with claim 31, wherein said recess is designed to extend in a longitudinal direction in such a way that said

nut can be shifted therein with a component perpendicular to said axial direction.

Please note that new claims 31-67 are being presented to provide additional coverage regarding a position measuring device and a method for absolute position measuring. In addition, since the original claims reflect a literal translation of the claims of the corresponding Patent Cooperation Treaty, there is a need to stylize their language to everyday English and to use U.S. patent terminology. Accordingly, the cancellation of original claims 1-30 and the addition of new claims 31-67 are not being presented for reasons of patentability as defined in *Festo Corporation v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., Ltd.*, 234 F.3d 558, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000) (*en banc*), *overruled in part*, 535 U.S. 722, 122 S. Ct. 1831 (2002).

Respectfully submitted,



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